

## McCourt's Divorce

will try to get M.L.B. to approve some version of the Fox deal. But even then, Selig may not allow them to remain the owners. "I think Frank thinks he will get to keep the team if he settles, but I'm sure Selig has already made up his mind," says Knight of ESPN.

Even with the team in M.L.B.'s hands, that doesn't mean that Frank won't sue them and everyone else in sight. Most likely there are many more arguments, and more court dates, to come. And Jamie is exhausted. "At this point, all Jamie wants out of this is enough money to keep her houses in L.A., and live comfortably, and never have to deal with this again," says the close source.

As far as the Dodgers are concerned, they have a chance of regaining their former shine under new owners. Milwaukee Brewers owner Mark Attanasio, Boston Red Sox chairman Tom Werner, and Chicago White Sox executive Dennis Gilbert, all of whom live in the Los Angeles area, have been floated as possible bidders for the franchise. Steve Garvey, an eight-time all-star for the Dodgers, has started an investor group with supermarket magnate Ron Burkle, who bought the N.H.L.'s Pittsburgh Penguins with Mario Lemieux in 1999.

What is not in question is that the new owner will be from Southern California. "One thing the M.L.B. wants is someone who has their finger on the pulse of our region," says David Carter, of the Sports Busi-

ness Institute at the University of Southern California. "They don't want any more out-of-towners taking over the Dodgers." □

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## Prince Andrew



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 81 her debts at 25 English pence to the pound. Where did that money come from? Andrew certainly never had that kind of money. No one can prove it, but the assumption is that Fergie's debts were quietly retired by the Queen."

People who have spent time with Andrew's daughters, Beatrice and Eugenie, come away impressed by their warmth and unpretentious nature. "At a fashion show, I was sitting with Eugenie," said Richard Dennen, a style writer for *The Sunday Times*, "and Charlotte Casiraghi, the daughter of Caroline of Monaco and the granddaughter of Grace Kelly, showed up, dressed in cool French chic. She introduced herself to Eugenie in the most impeccable French: 'Hello, I am Charlotte.' And Eugenie replied, 'Hi, I'm Eug,' which came out sounding like 'Hi, I'm Huge.' It was typical old-squire braying English, completely old school, and it was charming."

But it was Beatrice, not the more extroverted Eugenie, who stood out at the royal wedding with her outré hat. (Beatrice would later auction the hat on eBay, raising \$130,000 for charity.) No one knew whether Fergie had influenced Beatrice in her choice, but everyone agreed that Fergie—who has gone clubbing with Beatrice and Eugenie—exerts a great deal of control over her daugh-

ters' lives. Both girls are said to be in awe of their mother and try to be like her.

When Beatrice was 17, she fell in love with a disreputable American by the name of Paolo Liuzzo. He was seven years older than Beatrice, but Andrew and Fergie encouraged the romance and invited Liuzzo to join the family on a vacation at the exclusive Swiss ski resort Verbier. It later turned out that Liuzzo had a rap sheet in America, including a manslaughter charge for taking part in a drunken scuffle that resulted in a man's death. (Liuzzo eventually pleaded guilty to an assault-and-battery charge and received three years' probation and 100 hours of community service.) Beatrice was heartbroken when the relationship ended and she had to return to Goldsmiths, which is part of the University of London.

"Beatrice was clearly embarrassed when it was revealed that Fergie took money to introduce an undercover reporter to Prince Andrew," said someone who has been with the princess at charity balls and nightclubs. "A friend went to Royal Lodge to comfort Beatrice, who wouldn't leave the house because she was so ashamed and didn't want to have to deal with the press. The friend spent two nights with her while she cried."

### Andrew's Future Outlook

During the weeks leading up to the royal wedding, the impact of Andrew's problems on the future of the monarchy was the subject of much discussion in London. The festivities coincided with the most sweeping fiscal retrenchment in Britain since World War II, which forced the coalition government to cast a gimlet eye at the hefty bill for the royal family. In an era of record budget deficits, it didn't help the royals' case for people to read that Andrew had spent roughly \$13 million refurbishing Royal Lodge and that, until recently, Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie had 24-hour police protection at a yearly cost to taxpayers of \$820,000.

Nor are average Britons keen to hear royals whine about being short of money. The Queen, who is reputed to be among the richest people in the world, with a net worth of about \$20 billion, receives \$60 million from the government to cover her expenses. Most of her fortune is tied up in priceless art treasures, jewels, and Crown Estates, none of which she can sell. According to Philip Beresford, who follows royal finances for *The Sunday Times*, the Queen has liquid assets of about \$500 million—one-third in shares of blue-chip companies, one-third in revenue-producing properties at Sandringham and Balmoral, and one-third in racehorses and a stamp collection. Last year, the Queen paid the British treasury nearly \$328 million in taxes. Plus, she has to come up with money to support all the minor royals staying in Kensington Palace.

Prince Charles's financial situation resembles that of his mother, though on a reduced scale. As the steward of the Duchy of Cornwall, he gets an annual income of \$26 million from great tracts of land in the southwest of England. But he can't sell any of that property for profit. He donates about 60 percent of his income to charity, and another large chunk goes to pay taxes.

Recently, the hard-up British government decommissioned the country's last operational aircraft carrier, the H.M.S. *Ark Royal*, leading *The Wall Street Journal* to proclaim in a front-page headline, SUN SETTING ON BRITISH POWER. It would be premature to say that the same is true for the British monarchy, though it, too, will have to adapt to the stringent economic realities of the 21st century.

That doesn't mean, as some have suggested, that the monarchy is doomed to fade away or that there is a groundswell of support in Britain to replace it with a republic. On the contrary, a recent opinion poll showed that 76 percent of Britons are proud to live under a monarchy. But it does mean that the